

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR POWERING
A DATA COMMUNICATIONS PORT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

- 5 A data communications device includes a supervisory circuit, a power supply,
and a power circuit. The power circuit includes a data communications port, a power
supply connection coupled to the power supply, and a power controller coupled to the
data communications port and the power supply connection. The power controller is
configured to provide a power signal from the power supply connection to the data
10 communications port in response to communication with the supervisory circuit. Upon
loss of communication with the supervisory circuit, the power controller is configured to
selectively continue to provide the power signal from the power supply connection to
the data communications port when a local parameter has a first value, and discontinue
providing the power signal from the power supply connection to the data
15 communications port when the local parameter has a second value.